



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

BRIEFING: July 14, 2011 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM #6

TO: Chairman Umberg and Authority Board Members

FROM: Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director

DATE: July 5, 2011

RE: Alternatives Analysis on San Jose to Merced Section, concentrating on the WYE in the proximity of Chowchilla

Discussion

This agenda item is intended to serve as the release of a Supplemental Alternatives Analysis (AA) Report for the San Jose to Merced Section and provide the public and the Board an opportunity to be briefed on the current state of analyzing the alignment, station alternatives, and maintenance facilities for this project. This Supplemental AA proposes changes to the Preliminary and Supplemental Alternatives Analysis reports for the San Jose to Merced Section, previously approved at the June 3rd, 2010 and May 5th, 2011 board meetings by recommending an additional Wye connection along the SR-152 alignment.

Subject to United States Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer concurrence as part of the Clean Water Act § 404 (b)(1)/National Environmental Protection Act NEPA integration process, and considering the technical data and the extensive community, stakeholder, and agency input received, Authority staff recommends proceeding with the additional alignment alternative identified in the attached Executive Summary of the Supplemental AA for the San Jose to Merced Section EIR/EIS. The full Supplemental AA for the San Jose to Merced Section is posted on the CHSRA website.

Staff Recommendation

The staff recommends that the SR-152 alignment and Wye configurations described in the this Supplemental AA be carried forward and evaluated in the San Jose to Merced Draft High-Speed Train EIS/EIR.

Attachments:

- ✓ Executive Summary of Supplemental AA Report